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October 23, 2008

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARKANSAS OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES DECREASE IN 2007

Nonfatal workplace injuries and illness among private industry employers in Arkansas for 2007 occurred at a rate of 3.9 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers. This is an 11.4% decrease from 4.4 cases in 2006. The number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses reported in 2007 decreased by 9% to 34,300 cases, compared to 37,700 cases in 2006.

The 2007 injury and illness data is the latest available from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses conducted by the Arkansas Department of Labor, OSH/CFOI Division in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Key findings of the 2007 Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses:

- The goods producing sector, which includes natural resources, construction and manufacturing industries, had an incidence rate of 5.2 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers. This is an 8.8% decrease from the 2006 rate of 5.7 cases.
- The service providing sector, which includes the trade, transportation and utilities industries; professional and business services industries; education and health services industries; and the leisure and hospitality industries, had an incidence rate of 3.4 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers. This is a 10.5% decrease from the 2006 rate of 3.8 cases.

Please refer to the accompanying table for more detail. Additional tables and charts are available upon request.

Background of the Survey

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses is a Federal/State program in which employer reports were collected from about 4,000 private industry establishments in 2007 and processed by the Arkansas Department of Labor cooperating with the BLS. The survey measures nonfatal injuries and illnesses only and excludes the self-employed; farms with fewer than 11 employees; private households; Federal government agencies; and for national estimates, employees in State and local government agencies.

The survey provides estimates of the number and frequency (incidence rates) of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses based on logs kept by private industry employers who were selected to participate in the survey based on a statistical probability sample.

Another release in November 2008 will provide case and demographic details from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for cases requiring at least one day away from work to recuperate.

Fatal occupational injuries and illnesses for 2007 were not included in this study; however, a separate publication was issued in August 2008.

Table 11. Incidence rates¹ of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by industry sector and selected case types, 2005-2007

Arkansas

Industry Sector ²	Total recordable cases			Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction									Other recordable cases		
				Total			Cases with days away from work ⁶			Cases with job transfer or restriction					
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
Private industry ³	5.0	4.4	3.9	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	2.6	2.4	2.1
Goods producing ³	6.4	5.7	5.2	3.2	2.9	2.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.9	1.7	1.5	3.2	2.9	2.7
Natural resources and mining ^{3,4}	6.3	3.8	3.5	3.5	2.0	1.7	2.1	1.1	0.9	1.4	0.9	0.8	2.8	1.8	1.8
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting ³	6.2	3.8	4.4	3.2	2.2	2.1	2.4	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.9	0.8	3.0	1.7	2.3
Mining ⁴	6.4	--	--	4.2	--	--	1.4	--	--	2.7	--	--	2.3	--	--
Construction	5.5	5.8	4.7	2.8	2.4	1.8	2.3	1.7	1.3	0.6	0.7	0.5	2.7	3.4	2.9
Manufacturing	6.6	5.9	5.5	3.3	3.0	2.8	1.1	1.0	1.0	2.2	2.0	1.8	3.3	2.8	2.7
Service providing	4.3	3.8	3.4	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	2.3	2.2	1.9
Trade, transportation, and utilities ⁵	5.5	4.5	3.7	2.9	2.3	2.1	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	2.5	2.2	1.5
Wholesale trade	4.8	4.9	3.1	2.1	1.8	2.4	1.3	1.1	1.4	0.8	0.7	1.0	2.7	3.1	0.8
Retail trade	4.9	4.4	3.8	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	2.8	2.2	2.0
Transportation and Warehousing	7.0	4.5	3.7	4.9	3.1	2.5	3.4	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.0	2.1	1.3	1.2
Utilities	4.2	3.8	3.9	2.3	1.5	1.6	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.2	0.7	0.5	2.0	2.3	2.3
Information	2.6	2.2	1.7	1.0	1.2	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.6	1.0	0.9
Financial activities	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	--	(⁷)	1.0	0.9	0.6
Professional and business services	2.9	1.7	2.0	1.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.4	1.3	0.8	1.2
Education and health services	5.0	5.8	5.7	1.8	2.4	2.1	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.0	3.2	3.4	3.6
Educational services	2.5	4.0	1.9	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.3	(⁷)	0.3	(⁷)	1.8	3.1	1.5
Health care and social assistance	5.1	5.9	5.9	1.8	2.5	2.2	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.1	3.3	3.5	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	4.1	4.0	3.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.5	3.3	3.2	2.6
Other services, except public administration	3.1	2.8	1.0	1.7	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.3	1.4	2.0	0.4

¹ Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as: (N/EH) x 200,000 where

N = number of injuries and illnesses

EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year

200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers

(working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

² North American Industry Classification System, 2002 Edition

³ Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

⁴ Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002 edition) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded

from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes OSHA made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

⁵ Data for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

⁶ Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

⁷ Data too small to be displayed.

NOTE: Because of rounding, components may not add to totals. Dash indicates data do not meet publication guidelines.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, in cooperation with participating State agencies.